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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/21/07

SPONSOR Swisstack LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HJM 61

SHORT TITLE Research Adult Probation and Parole Services SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Peery-Galon

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Response Received From

New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD)

#### No Response Received From

New Mexico Sentencing Commission

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 61 requests the New Mexico Sentencing Commission research issues related to providing adult probation and parole services to offenders in New Mexico. The joint memorial requests the research conducted by the New Mexico Sentencing commission to include the following:

- Caseloads for adult probation and parole officers;
- National standards for caseloads;
- Starting salaries for adult probation and parole officers;
- Competing salaries for similar employment in New Mexico;
- Retention of adult probation and parole officers; and
- The number of vacant officer positions within the adult probation and parole division.

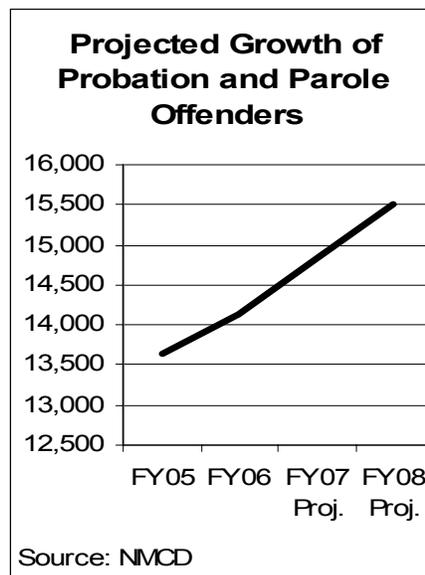
The New Mexico Sentencing Commission is to report its findings to the appropriate interim legislative committee by November 30, 2007.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no appropriation to assist the New Mexico Sentencing Commission in conducting the research. NMCD states the New Mexico Sentencing Commission indicated that it can research the designated issues by reviewing and assessing existing data or information, and an appropriation would not be needed to conduct this research.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

NMCD states the joint memorial should be a great benefit to the department because the study will help illuminate the current status, difficulties and concerns of the Probation and Parole Division. NMCD reports there is a substantial vacancy rate for probation and parole officers. Also, NMCD notes a problem exists in retaining probation and parole officers due to relatively low pay when compared with probation and parole officers in the Albuquerque metropolitan court and federal system.



There was a 22.2 percent turnover of probation and parole officers in fiscal year 2006. NMCD's Key Quarterly Performance Measure Report, for the second quarter of fiscal year 2007, shows the average standard caseload per probation and parole officer was 120. The performance measure's fiscal year 2007 target is 92.

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